

V. I. A. Annual

DEVOTED TO VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT AND TOWN BETTERMENT

VOL. LIX

TYNGSBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

MARCH, 1954



Oak Hill Quarry off Westford Road about 1800

The Early Industries of Tyngsboro

Probably John Cromwell was our first businessman. He traded furs with the Indians and settled in 1659 near where the open air theatre is now on Middlesex Road. Being warned that hostile Indians were coming, he buried his money and barely escaped, when they came and burned his hut. Later owners found some money buried in the ground near this place. Cromwell had come from what is now Merrimack, N. H. and bought land from Captain Edward Johnson, a surveyor in the party sent out by Gov. Endicott in 1652 to survey the Merrimack River. This land he received in payment for his work. John Cromwell built a house on what is now the Bancroft Farm and at his death in 1661, his widow, Seaborne, was left with quite an estate for those times.

The sole right to trade furs with the Indians along the banks of the Merrimack had been sold in 1657, by the Massachusetts Bay Colony to four men for 25 pounds each; Lieut. Henchman at Chelmsford; Ens. Thomas Wheeler at what is now Nashua, N. H.; Capt. Simon Willard at the present Merrimack, N. H.; and Capt. William Brenton at Souhegan Farms.

The Government needed money and wealthy men, who furnished it, were paid in lands "Lay'd out in the wilderness." Among those on the west side of the river here were Lt. Joseph Wheeler, Samuel Coles and Col. Jonathan Tyng; and on the east side, Richard Dummer, John Evered, alias Webb, Capt. Thomas Scarlett and his son. In the Scarlett deed, mention is made of certain land (in 1675) with buildings thereon at Monmako and also floatage, viz. barges and lighters, purchased of Bartholemeo Barnados. Whether these boats were commercial or otherwise is not clear.

The Pawtucket Indians and others had their choice fishing spots on the river and land cleared for burning was kept open for planting. Wicasee (Tyng's) Island was a favorite camping place and Wannalancet, son of the Great Chief Passaconoway spent much of his time at this place. Canoes on the river and trails to Mascupic and Massapoag and other ponds where fish were abundant sufficed for their travel.

The name Wicasee or Wicasook comes from sook, (a brook) and wikopi, (the inner bark of the Basswood, or Linden tree, which was abundant here). The Indians made ropes, nets, mats and some articles of clothing from this bark. They liked this place for their cornfield because, being completely surrounded by water, the wild beasts did not bother their planting.

Opposite the island on the west side of the river was the 3,000 acre farm of Col. Jonathan Tyng. He bought this farm from his father Edward Tyng in 1668. He hired Indians to help him clear and plant the land. He built a very sturdy house with a gambrel roof, interlined with brick (now owned by the Marist Brothers). When King Philip's War came in 1675 the Tyng Family remained on their farm, when all others in the neighborhood had returned to places of refuge nearer Boston. Col. Jonathan and his sons William and Eleazer were all leaders in the fight against the Indians. Later when the Indians were driven back, Col. Jonathan Tyng cared for the friendly Indians who remained on Wicasee Island and was given the Island in payment for the care he had given the Indians. He owned much land on both sides of the river. His inventory in 1724 showed that he possessed more than 10,000 acres of land.

V. I. A. ANNUAL

Published each year by the

Village Improvement Association of Tyngsborough

VOL. LIX

MARCH, 1954

OFFICERS OF THE V. I. A.

Mr. Martin E. Betz, President
 Mr. Curtiss L. Lustig, First Vice President
 Mr. Robert D. Lambert, Second Vice President
 Mrs. Robert D. Lambert, Clerk and Corresponding Secretary
 Mr. Roscoe C. Turner, Treasurer
 Mr. Raymond W. Sherburne, Auditor

Executive Committee

Mr. Albert Holdsworth	1954	Mrs. Albert Holdsworth	1954
Mr. Earle R. Stratton	1955	Mrs. Earle R. Stratton	1955
Mr. Charles Debarbian	1956	Mrs. F. H. Sargent	1956

Report of The Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was called to order at 7:45, Thursday, November 12, 1953, in the Lower Town Hall. Nearly fifty people were present and enjoyed a delicious turkey pie dinner prepared under the direction of Mrs. Martin E. Betz. Donald Hankinson played pleasant dinner music throughout the meal.

The reports of the clerk, treasurer and auditor were read and accepted. It was noted that a bond purchased in 1941 matured adding \$200. to the treasury. Other reports given were from the Playground Director, the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee appointed, Chester Queen, Chairman, Bertram Currier and Preston Fay brought in the following slate of officers:

President—Martin E. Betz
 1st Vice President—Curtiss L. Lustig
 2nd Vice President—Robert D. Lambert
 Clerk and Corresponding Secretary—Barbara H. Lambert
 Treasurer—Roscoe C. Turner
 Auditor—Raymond W. Sherburne
 Executive Committee for three years—Charles Debarbian

The clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for the slate of officers.

Following the meeting Mrs. F. H. Sargent agreed to serve as the other member of the executive committee.

The Executive Committee recommended that the V. I. A. purchase a plaque to be erected at the Winslow School in memory of Enlo A. Perham. This plaque is to bear the names of the Enlo A. Perham Scholarship Award Winners through 1953. It was unanimously voted to purchase the plaque.

The centerpiece of yellow and white chrysanthemums was placed on the head table in memory of members who had passed away. A page in the records was dedicated to Bertha Turner and Della Bancroft. Mrs. Turner was one of the earliest members of the V. I. A., a member of the Executive Committee, and has been one of its most ardent workers through the years.

The guest speaker was Dwight Strong of the Massachusetts Crime Commission whose subject was "Crime is Your Business, Too". It was a very interesting and informative talk and many questions were asked.

Among the guests were Mrs. Dwight Strong, Dr. and Mrs. William Slade, Mr. Philip Larson and Father McKeon.

Respectfully submitted,
 Barbara H. Lambert, Clerk

Executive Committee Report

The Executive Committee wishes to thank all the townspeople who helped to make the Annual Fair in March a success. During the year the back stops of the tennis court were repaired and the overall size increased. The Spring Clean-Up Day was a success, but the Fall Day was eliminated due to lack of interest.

The Committee wishes to recommend the purchase of a plaque in memory of Enlo A. Perham to be placed in the Winslow School. This plaque to bear the names of the previous Enlo A. Perham Scholarship Award Winners, and have sufficient space for future names to be added. It is suggested that the school be responsible for the additional name plates.

Respectfully submitted,
 Martin E. Betz, Chairman

Treasurer's Report for The Year Ending
October 31, 1953

RECEIPTS

Balance November 1, 1952	\$ 875.29
Membership dues—1952	3.00
Membership dues—1953	71.00
Advertising Receipts Annual Paper—1952	18.50
Advertising Receipts Annual Paper—1953	175.00
Receipts from Annual Meeting November 1952	44.70
Receipts from Annual Fair March 12-13, 1953	
Fancy Table	\$51.10
Novelty Table	14.60
Candy Table	36.55
Farmer's Table	35.00
Children's Table	37.01
Flower Table	30.15
Grab Table	7.25
Door—2 nights	165.70
Supper—1 night	87.90
	<hr/>
Refund on cut for 1953 paper	465.26
Interest on savings account	5.60
	<hr/>
	\$1,664.62

PAYMENTS

Cost of Annual Meeting November 1952	\$ 75.36
Cost of Annual Fair March 12-13, 1953	
Tickets	\$ 9.50
Internal Revenue Tax	27.96
Advertising	6.00
Play Books	11.90
Royalty—2 nights	30.00
Village Players	32.14
Supper Supplies	85.78
Flowers	2.00
Labor	2.00
	<hr/>
	207.28
Printing V. I. A. Annual Paper	335.30
Spring clean-up—Truck	80.00
Spring clean-up—Advertising	6.00
	<hr/>
	86.00
Labor and material on tennis court	149.36
Tapes for tennis court	15.60
V. I. A.'s share wiring Christmas tree	7.15
Service charge to bank for checking account	3.52
Postage for Treasurer	2.51
	<hr/>
Total Payments	\$ 882.08
Cash Balance	782.54
	<hr/>
	\$1,664.62

Total Assets of V. I. A. on October 31, 1953	
On Hand	\$ 7.49
Union National Bank, Checking Account	269.60
Union National Bank, Savings Account	146.65
Lowell Institution for Savings	208.80
U. S. Bond, purchased June 14, 1941 at cost	150.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 782.54

Respectfully submitted
 Roscoe C. Turner
 Treasurer

AUDITOR'S STATEMENT

November 6, 1953.

I have examined the foregoing account and find it correct and cash balance as stated.

Raymond W. Sherburne
 Auditor

MILLS AND TAVERNS

A very early mill on the west side of the river was at the Tyngsborough end of Massapaog pond. A letter written by Rev. Thomas Weld (the first minister of Old Dunstable) written the "30th of the 11th month 1683/4" to Hon. Samuel Sewall, concerning some land he owns on the eastern side of "Massapaog Pond" says, "It is well wooded with Oakes and Pines and if you be desirous to build I can supply you with what boards you may want from a saw mill that is but about half a mile from some part of this Farm." Judge Sewall was husband of Hannah Hull, daughter of the mintmaster and silversmith, who gave her her weight in Pine tree shillings as her dowry.

In 1787 John Woodward had at the dam where the water enters Massapaog Pond, one grist mill, one saw mill and one saw. Later Nathaniel Brinley had a grist mill and saw mill here, and Brinley and James a steam saw mill east of the pond near the Dunstable line. There was a stave mill near the dam operated by G. H. Vinal.

Joel Keyes had a mill in 1797 on Bridge Meadow Brook not far from the present home of Milton Estabrook, Jr. on Westford Road. The sluiceway can still be seen.

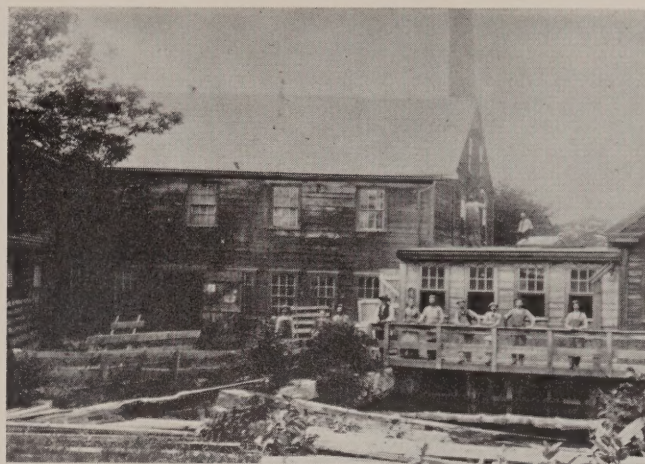
Brinley and James operated a steam saw mill and box shop on Biscuit Brook at the outlet of the present Notre Dame Academy pond.

There was an old mill, probably a grist mill, near the stone bridge in Bridge's Meadow. Mrs. Larrabee said her Uncle Charles Davis told of seeing the stones in a hollow near the bridge, a relic of the old mill.

The mill at Flint's brook at the center of town, has a long history. Cornelius Waldo, a miller who had three sons may have had a grist mill here. He came here from Chelmsford and built his house where Mrs. Lovering lives now on Farwell Road. In 1689 he sold his farm and went back to North Chelmsford where he had a grist mill on Stony Brook there. He ground corn on Thursdays for Dunstable (now Tyngsborough). A road had been "lay'd out in 1670 from Newfield Gate (No. Chelmsford) to Waldo's Farm at Dunstable 6 poles wide." This road followed the old Indian Trail. It came up Tyng Road, over Potash Hill across the upper dam at the present mill pond, behind the present Winslow School joining Farwell Road at the brook above Perley Carkin's house. There was no road in early days along the river. The first recorded mention of a mill at the center is in 1728 when Henry Farwell sells to Caleb Parker of Newton. Again when he mortgages his farm to James Gordon of Boston in 1745-55 reference is made to "Grist and Saw Mills". Henry Farwell lived where Mr. Bostick now lives. He had the first innholders license and a license to operate a ferry across the Merrimack. Some of the First Parish Meetings were held at this tavern before the meeting house at the center was completed and Rev. Nathaniel Lawrence in his historic notes locates the meeting house as being near "Gordon's Mills". He says "the grist mill is within one rod of the public road, containing two pairs of stones and in excellent repair". Ovid Houston, a body servant of Gordon's was the genial "copper colored" host. When Gordon died in 1785 Houston took the mill to satisfy a debt. Houston's daughter and her husband Jonathan Hamblett sold in 1799 to Asa Butterfield, who sold it to his sons Timothy and Charles. Asa Butterfield also bought the Gordon Mansion House, (where Mrs. Lovering now lives), and operated a Stage Tavern there. The stages from Boston to Amherst, N. H. made regular stops there. (There was no Middlesex Road from the center to Washburn's Corner until 1825). Asa Butterfield built a stable for 50 horses, a store stood a little north of the Mansion House. There was a blacksmith shop across the road near the brook and under the big elm (now only a stump) stood the house of Aaron Bryant, Sr. the blacksmith. There was a wheelright shop, a cider mill, a farm house and other farm buildings. After the railroad was built in 1835, many of these buildings were moved to the center of town and the Stage Tavern was discontinued. But Asa Butterfield and his son Timothy still made their home here.

Timothy and Charles Butterfield sold the mill at the center to Joel Adams in 1830 who sold in January 1831 to Simon Thomson, Jr. and Joseph Danforth, Jr. There was now a Grist Mill, a Saw Mill and a Wool-carding Mill. A carpenter shop stood in the mill yard about where the Town Hall now stands. The Robeson Block where Mr. Coles now lives was a furniture factory.

John G. Upton bought the mill in 1849. George Turner and George Leird in 1852 leased 1400 feet of land by the pond for five years for 25c per yr. They bought a wheelright shop, belonging to the house where Perley Carkin now lives on Farwell Road and moved it onto this land. Mr. Upton later bought this of them and moved it over to form part of the mill near the road. Mr. Upton enlarged and improved the mill greatly and ran a very successful business for many years. The accompanying picture taken when Mr. Upton owned the box shop shows some of the employees, one a woman. He employed women to nail the small boxes together.



J. G. Upton Box Factory 1849-1900

About 1900, A. A. Flint bought the mill from the Upton heirs. He made many improvements, put in a spur track, added a sawdust house and blower, corner locking machine and other up to date machinery. In his advertisement in the V.I.A. Annual he quotes prices among others, "Board ends \$1.50 per cord, Dry Sawdust 5c per bbl." and again "A. A. Flint, Orders solicited for new wagons, dump carts, sleds, wheel barrows. I have now a good stock of Neck Yokes, whiffletrees, heel chains and stake chains." A news item in the V.I.A. Annual says, "The floor space in the box shop has been doubled and boxes of all sizes from capacity of a pint to packing cases are being shipped by carload and team to all points of the compass, including Collinsville, No. Chelmsford and New York, by the enterprising proprietor."

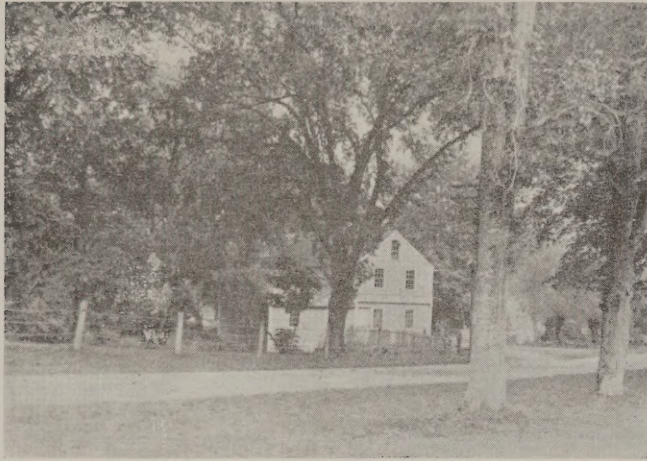
In 1909, Mr. Flint furnished electric power from the mill to provide electric lighting for the town street lights, the Town Hall, Evangelical Church, Flint's Box Shop and some private residences. By 1914 he had installed a new dynamo and for some time our electric power was supplied from the mill. The mill was sold in 1917 to the Equitable Income Associates, Inc. of Boston, who sold in 1919 to the Tyng Box Co. It was sold again in 1921 to Ernest D. and Stephen H. Scribner of Lowell. It was torn down in 1931 to make way for the new bridge and its approaches.

Most of the land on the east side of the river was purchased by Joseph Parham and Joseph Butterfield, who in 1711 came from Chelmsford and settled near the present home of Mr. John Robinson on Sherburne Ave. Much of this land became large productive farms. One mill privilege has been in constant use since very early times, that of Sherburne Brothers' Mill on Coburn Road. First a Grist Mill and then a Saw Mill was built by "Joseph and Reuben Butterfield by a parole lease". This was "on the mill brook at the mill place". Later James Butterfield owned the mill. Before 1826 he had discontinued the grist mill and put in a cider mill. After 1865, James P. Butterfield, son of James and Rachel (Parham) Butterfield became owner and added a wheelright shop, installed machinery for the manufacture of woolen cloth and wool blankets. In 1886, Warren A. Sherburne bought the property and built a new saw mill. For about twenty years he carried on a wheelright business, then it was discontinued but the work at the saw mill keeps on, a very active and successful business carried on by his two sons.

There may have been a mill in early days on Scarlet Brook and one on Gilson's Brook, but this has not been verified.

THE BRUSH FACTORY

One of the very early blacksmith shops was that of Captain Nathaniel Holden. He came to town in 1765 and lived near Washburn's lower pond across from "Lola's" on Middlesex Road. He built his shop near the pond. Then came the Revolutionary War in which he took a very prominent part. On his return he built in 1799, the house, now the home of Mr. Edward Moss on Farwell Road. His son Jonathan opened a general blacksmith business, making and repairing farm tools. In a few years Jonathan Holden sold to Daniel Ingalls, who put in a trip hammer and began to make edge tools. This industry was later moved to Nashua and became the Edgeville Tool Co. Ingalls sold to Messrs. Taylor and Souther who built the shop shown in the picture and commenced the brush and carriage making. Soon they failed and Washburn and Dockham bought the business. Oliver Washburn was the inventor of the "Washburn Dresser Brush" used widely in most of the cotton manufactories in this country for fifty years or more but which was superseded by the "slasher". Mr. Washburn's advertisement in the V.I.A. Annual reads as follows; "H. A. Washburn, Brushes for Cotton and Woolen Mills, Tyngsborough, Mass."



Washburn's Brush Factory 1875-1900

Harry Sanborn

STORES

Upton and Adams carried on a general store at the center until 1823, when their new one was built. It was located just south of the west end of the old bridge. Many items of interest are to be found in their old store books, such as the following;

May 13, 1824	Straw hats left to sell by Anna Coburn	
June 2, 1824	Mr. Whitney left 8 straw hats to sell	
April 2, 1824	John T. Farwell 1 Straw Hat and band	.50
	John T. Farwell To paid for Trimming Uniform	9.62
Dec. 9, 1824	Lieut. Willard Cummings By 16m Brick \$6.	96.00
	Del'vd at Joseph Upton House By your son Howard	1.00
		97.00 "

This store continued with various owners, Sam Elliott, J. H. D. Littlehale, A. A. Flint and Nelson and Perham. The Nelson and Perham Store was burned in 1916 and Perham and Queen opened in the present location.

Benjamin Blood is said to have had his store about 1800 at the house now occupied by Freeman Spindell on Sherburne Ave. The store was at the rear of the house where the brick flagging is laid.

There was a store at the Tavern-at-the-Bend, later the Merrill House. This stood on land owned by Judge John Tyng, later by the Brinleys about where the Red Wing Diner is located. In early days there was a fordway across the river at this place and a landing. As river boating increased business at the tavern grew. The rafting of logs down the river and the logging teams and, those that brought produce from the farms all brought lodgers to the tavern.

Two of the early tavern keepers were Jonathan Hamblett (husband of Lucy Houston) and Benjamin Eppes. When the Middlesex Canal was opened in 1803 and the Middlesex Turnpike was completed in 1811 the town was really busy. There was a wheel-right shop and a blacksmith shop. Brooks Cummings was the blacksmith. He worked for Robert Brinley and he lived where Mr. Whelan lives now. His shop was a long low building near the road near Biscuit Brook in front of Chester Queen's present house. The second floor of the shop was used for the repair and painting of carriages.

POTASH

About 1820, when Gen. Leach operated a foundry at No. Chelmsford, he bought the Tyng house (belonging to the Marist Bros. at present) and also the house next to it (now belonging to Mr. Avery) and all the lands belonging with them. He cleared all the land of timber and burned it there in charcoal pits for use at his foundry to reduce the ore. Mr. Drake and Mr. Bennett took charge of this operation for him and later bought the property and settled there. The charcoal pits may still be seen and an old stone fireplace and chimney on Potash Hill where a charcoal burner's hut stood.

Potash was made at the rear of the tavern, where an old potash house stood. Potash was used in making glass, which reminds me that there was a glass factory for making window glass for a short time up near the ferry.

THE FERRY

Originally the ferry was a private business operated by Henry Farwell, Jr. in 1728. In 1760, the County of Middlesex ordered that two roads be built one on each side of the river to be connected by a ferry. In 1809 Middlesex County court at its January term set up a ferry over the Merrimack at the Town Landing at Tyngsborough. The town entered into an agreement with Parsons & Fletcher to run it for five years according to certain terms. A list of fares was established.

QUARRYING

David Butterfield, who lived where Bowers Fuller now lives on Willowdale Ave., having a large amount of fine granite on his farm cut the stone and hauled it down to Pawtucket Falls, when the dam was built there by the Locks and Canals Co. His stone sheds were near the house on the opposite side of the road. Reuben Butterfield sold two lots on the east side of the river, near the Island, which supplied granite for the State Prison at Charlestown. On the west side of the river granite was quarried back of the Tyng Mansion and the house later owned by Mr. Bennett. Some of this was sent to Boston by river boats through the canal, much was also used here for the wall along the river by the depot, for other bank walls such as that at Mr. Bostick's and for the abutments of the old bridge.

Oak Hill Quarry, shown in the picture, was one of the largest sources of fine granite. The columns for the Boston Custom House came from this place. Charles Hollis took out granite for the U. S. Bank and Quincy Market at Boston. Some of the local laying of stone was done by William Blodgett who lived where A. R. Marshall lives on Kendall Road. One of the later quarrymen was Walter H. Brown who lived on Tyng Road. He shipped out granite in large slabs at a siding near where Clarence Connell lives on Middlesex Road. These large blocks or slabs of granite gave the name "Slab City" to what we now call "Woods Corner". One of the early advertisements in the Annual runs as follows; "Walter H. Brown", "Dealer in Granite, rough and Hammered. Contracts filled for all kinds of building and cemetery work, edgestones, paving blocks, etc. Tyngsborough, Mass."

FARM INDUSTRIES AND SMALL SHOPS

After the Revolution and before the War of 1812 goods from England were scarce so families produced their own. Rev. Matthew Scribner, a retired minister from Westford, raised Merino Sheep on Scribner's Hill near the Westford line. Flax was planted on large farms such as the Littlehale, Parham and Butterfield farms and they spun and wove their own linen. Mulberry trees were planted and silk worms raised on the farm where Mr. Stratton now lives on Chestnut Road and also on the Cummings farm at the old house owned now by Arthur Hunter. Bricks were made on this same Cummings Farm on Cummings Road and were used in building the "brick-end house" that stood near Mr. Vernet's house on Dunstable Road. There was another brick yard and clay pit near the home of Mr. John Parham (where Mrs. Shipley now lives on Coburn Road). Bricks made here in 1803 were carried across the river on the ice and used in building the Lambert House on Middlesex Road. In the winter, ice harvesting was quite a business on Flint's, Washburn's and other ponds.

Small shops were widely scattered. There were many cooper shops, one at Mr. William Blodgett's (now A. R. Marshall's on Kendall Road), one at the Bennett Farm (now Mr. Avery's, on Tyng Road), one on Kendall Road (where Mr. Orrin Leonard is building), and one on Middlesex Road opposite Mrs. Lambert's. There was a hoop shop, (at Mr. LeBlanc's), on Locust Ave. near the brook. The house now belonging to Mrs. Parrish on Kendall Road, where Mr. Starkey lives was a whip factory. Clinton Davis made it over into a dwelling. He worked as a stenciller in Boston and stencilled the walls in the house back of the town hall where Mr. Lavoie now lives. There was a dressmaker shop north of Upton and Adams Store. Between this shop and the mill Josiah Stevens built in 1803 a large house which was used as a tavern for about twenty years. It was later the home of Mr. Louville Curtis. This also had a store in it at one time. When the new bridge was built this was partly torn down and part was removed to Kendall Road and is now the home of Warren Allgrove. The Ashley house on Frost Road was a rendezvous for the loyal soldiers at the time of the Revolution and later had a shoemaker shop there. Mr. Frost, the cobbler, had a habit of throwing his awl up into the overhead beam, hence, the beam was filled with small holes. There are three leather hearts nailed over the door of this room. Mr. Maderios was the town barber before 1888 and had a shop in the north end of the Littlehale Store. Later Charles Davis had a barber shop near Smoky Rock on Middlesex Road and one in the house behind the Town Hall. Charles Danforth, the Postmaster, had a stationery business in the old Post Office when it was in the "Julia Butterfield House," which stood north of the west end of the old bridge. This later became "Sparrow's Store" and "Ye Town Spa". Commercial Printing was done in 1924 by Fred A. Mottram on Frost Road. There were two Sanitariums, one that of Dr. Benner on Farwell Road, now Mr. Shea's home, the other that of Dr. Fitzgerald in

1892, now owned by the Notre Dame Academy. This same Dr. Fitzgerald raised thoroughbred horses and called his farm, Colonial Hall Stock Farm. Another breeder of fine horses was Stiles and Baker, on Lawndale Farm, where the Times family now lives. Space will not permit telling of the Picnic Groves, like Willowdale and Harmony Grove, also the many small business ventures. I have tried to represent the business life up to 1924. For reference material I have used mainly earlier V. I. A. Annuals. For today's business we hope you will consult the advertisements in this issue.

Catharine W. Lambert

The First Parish

The Unitarian Church of our Community has held its services here now for over 200 years and still stands as a symbol of the faith and devotion of its people. The purposes still remain from the heritage of the past and are set forth in the following affirmation of faith:

"We avow our faith
In God as Eternal and all conquering love;
In the spiritual leadership of Jesus;
In the supreme worth of every human personality;
In the authority of truth, known or to be known;
And in the power of men of goodwill and sacrificial
spirit to overcome all evil and progressively establish the kingdom of God."

This church assumes the right of everyone to think religiously as his or her own conscience speaks to them, and expects the greatest progress to follow from entire religious freedom. For God, as the Father of all men, speaks to us all in different ways.

This church welcomes to its membership all who wish to cooperate in making a world which shall be enlightened by knowledge, guided by reason, and animated by good-will in order to bring peace on earth as it is in heaven.

Rev. Philip M. Lorson

Ladies' Aid Alliance, First Parish Church

The members of this group have conducted their usual May Breakfast, sales table at Mrs. Boucher's Antique Show in October and Christmas Sale during 1953. These activities enabled us to contribute in no small measure to a project which the Parish has dreamed of for several years and which has now become a reality. A well has been drilled in the church grounds and the water piped into the basement of the church whence it will soon be available in the kitchen. We may thank Mr. Jerome Hatfield, Mr. Orrin Leonard, Mr. Guy Constantine and others for their large part in this enterprise.

In recent months we have been holding meetings in the evening as this seemed more convenient for some of the members than the former time.

The annual Christmas party for the Sunday School followed the morning service on Christmas Sunday. It was well attended and enjoyed by all.

The Social Service Committee, headed by Miss Anna Elliott, has extended valuable help wherever needed.

We were saddened in September by the death of our former President, Mrs. Bertha Turner, whose inspiring influence and help over so many years are greatly missed.

Mona Gove

The Tyngsborough Playground

Once again it is my privilege to report that the playground has completed a more than successful year.

We were very fortunate in obtaining the services of Miss Sylvia Sherburne as assistant director, who led the pre-school and primary grade children in their activities.

Our special events; treasure hunt, auction, and closing day party drew record numbers of children. There was an average daily attendance of 65, and special occasions drew over 100 children.

This year has seen a renewal of interest in tennis, and although we continued our many games, crafts, and other works we have tried to foster this interest even to extending beyond the time limits of the playground. This project has taken shape under the capable leadership of Mrs. Catherine Lambert, and a tennis club was formed.

Our major expenditures this year were for tools and lumber in the woodworking department, tennis racket restringing, and the purchase of tennis balls, rackets and tapes for the court. We have added no large pieces of playground equipment, but we have repaired and restored our present facilities as well as possible.

I would like to extend thanks to the many people and organizations that have given so generously of their time and financial aid, without which a program as varied as ours could not be carried on.

More especially I would like to thank Mrs. Catherine Lambert and Miss Anna Elliott for their unfailing help in all phases of the playground program.

Donald A. Hankinson
Director



Bertha M. Turner

Another page can be added to the history of Tyngsborough's own people who, in their own way, have contributed much of themselves to make life pleasant here.

Bertha M. (Sherburne) Turner, born in Tyngsborough in 1881 the daughter of the late Reuben Butterfield and Ella J. (Blodgett) Sherburne was a descendant of two early pioneer families.

She was educated in the Winslow School, graduated from the Lowell High School and The Lowell Normal School. She taught in Dunstable, Webster, Springfield and for several years at the old Bartlett School in Lowell.

In 1912 she joined the V. I. A., was the clerk until 1918 and the following year Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe C. Turner became members of the Executive Committee. Their interest in all phases of the V. I. A. has continued through the years.

She was a Trustee of the Littlefield Library from 1922 to 1936, the last eleven years as chairman.

Being a life member of the First Parish Church she served as clerk from 1927 until her death September 17, 1953. For many years she was President of the Ladies Aid Alliance.

Through all her many projects there was always her devotion and loyalty to her family.

Because of her sincere interest in her town and its history she was one of the founders of the Tyngsborough-Dunstable Historical Society and was its first President which office she held until forced to resign because of ill health. Her many little anecdotes and stories of early residents, learned from her parents, made her authentic historical accounts a pleasure to read. She has contributed greatly to the running History of Tyngsborough through her yearly chapters in the V. I. A. Annuals.

Her quiet manner, extreme attention to detail, and kindly dry humor have carried these organizations far along their way.

"To understand is to appreciate," — and by her example she has inspired others to carry on her work so that we may be worthy of our New England Heritage.

March Of Dimes

Research work designed for prevention and cure of infantile paralysis has now been going on for quite a number of years, and during the last year, very important and effective discoveries have been made along these lines, especially in the way of preventing this terrible affliction.

This work has been possible largely through funds coming from the small contributions of many contributors to the March of Dimes. The response to this appeal by the people of Tyngsborough has been hearty and a considerable sum has been forwarded to the Middlesex County Chapter. Let us hope that it will not be long before the cases of infantile paralysis will be as rare as are those of small-pox.

R. W. Sherburne

How Tyngsborough Came By Its Name

In 1789, Madam Sarah Tyng Winslow "signified her willingness to give about \$5,000. to the town, the income to be divided equally in support of the grammar school teacher and the minister of the First Parish, providing the district, then a part of Dunstable, should be called by her father's family name. And so Tyngsborough came to be on the map. Harvard college is the residuary legatee of this fund."

From Vol. XIX

VITAL STATISTICS

Births for 1953

Jan. 1—Paulette Babe Coulter—Arthur Norman and Pauline Jean Richard
 Jan. 13—Gale Rebecca Lamb—Kenneth H. and Ruth H. Hartshorn
 Jan. 18—Paul Philip Homenick—Peter P. and Ruth P. Johnson
 Jan. 27—John Arthur Giniewicz—Stanley J. and Rita Trouville
 Jan. 30—Edwin Arthur Richards—Francis and Gladys Bezanson
 Feb. 18—Nancy Ann Cote—Norman A. and Nancy R. Paduano
 Feb. 24—Alfred Joseph Fournier—Alfred G. and Pearl Chenette
 Mar. 1—Gail Louise Shipley—George W. and Louise Bowlby
 Mar. 1—Dianna Linda Maine—George W. and Rita F. Massey
 Mar. 3—Steven Keith Alix—Robert E. and Marjorie Keith
 Mar. 12—Bette Jean Herrmann—Frank C. and Evelyn J. May
 Mar. 16—Donald Joseph Lacourse—Ernest J. and Claire A. Rousseau
 Mar. 16—David Michael Mercier—Leo A. and Irene R. Roux
 Mar. 27—Leslie Derbyshire—Frederick and Gertrude Greene
 Mar. 27—Dorothy Louise Richardson—Daniel G. and Dorothy A. Halpin
 Mar. 31—Donna Lee Lorman—Gerald E. and Gloria E. Campbell
 Apr. 6—Patricia Anne Worley—Raymond C. and Mabel R. Pitts
 Apr. 17—William James Edgecomb—William J. and Phyllis A. Hurst
 Apr. 23—James Elliott Mahan—Frederick J. and Pauline D. Elliott
 Apr. 29—Peter Anthony Quintin—John L. and Phyllis C. Russell
 May 3—Linda Michelle Gagnon—Emile and Alice Martin
 May 10—Faith Charlene Rand—Donald A. and Genevieve T. Stearns
 May 15—Allan Elliott Reis, Jr.—Allan Elliott and Florence Charlot Ziemba
 June 2—Janet Lee Langlois—Leo and Loretta Roy
 June 3—Mary Elizabeth Barker—John C. and Dorothy A. Roberge
 June 6—Jeanne Anne Marie Mercier—Wilfred R. and Yolande M. Page
 June 21—Sandra Lee Emerson—William Joseph and Dorothy Elmira Pond
 June 23—William James Mackey—John J. and Janice Morrison
 June 27—Kent Anthony Bostick—Winston H. and Virginia H. Lord
 July 6—Mark Phillip Turcotte—Valmore E. and Pearl L. Farrell
 July 21—John Charles Cote—Jean C. and Wanda S. Iudiski
 July 22—Davy Joseph Gagnon—Robert J. W. and Patricia Hatch
 July 26—Linda Ann Hebert—Howard R. and Stephanie D. Dziubek
 July 27—James Allen Stangroom—Rupert E. and Janet M. Zinn
 Aug. 4—Bruce Kenneth Fuller—Kenneth C. and Myrtle S. Seamans
 Aug. 9—Charles Frederick Lorman—Richard E. and Janet E. Clarke
 Aug. 10—Sandra Ann Borodawka—Peter L. and Marie L. Martel
 Aug. 12—Warren Wingate Allgrove, Jr.—Warren Wingate and Marie Wilke
 Aug. 14—Matthew Robert Cote—Louis R. and Marie Pombrio
 Aug. 15—Bradford William Buckley—Gerald B. and Barbara A. Landry
 Aug. 31—Albina M. Denise Brouillette—George H. and Marie A. Guilmette
 Sept. 13—Steven Michael Maciejewski—John J. and Stephanie Slowik
 Sept. 16—Luke Gerard Fortin—Luke E. and Dorothy L. Hettler
 Sept. 21—Robert Alfred Gyles—Robert Lamphere and Evelyn Alexina Childs
 Sept. 29—Robert Anthony Notto—Joseph A. and Frances M. Kozlowski
 Sept. 29—Constance Marie Cote—John Robert and Lena Georgetown Cabana
 Oct. 1—Mary Christina Bunker—Robert E. and Dora K. Gouthro
 Oct. 14—Lois Marguerite Bailey—Hector E. and Constance E. Carpenter
 Oct. 20—Frances Margaret Chisholm—Francis L. and Mary E. Crowley
 Oct. 24—Vivier—Raymond L. and Rita Latour
 Nov. 2—Michael Thomas Kierstead—Gerald and Muriel Cummings
 Nov. 7—James Harold Jordan—Harold R. and Maria G. Julicher
 Nov. 13—Ralph Emmerson Macklin—Frank and June Richardson
 Nov. 14—Pamela Jean DeCarteret—Richard A. and Virginia L. Logan
 Nov. 23—Lawrence Gardner Sanford—Albert A. and Mary E. Gardner
 Nov. 26—Scott Harold Gilpatrick—Harold C. and Muriel V. Cobleigh
 Nov. 27—Joseph Prosper Snay—Ernest and Mary Fitzpatrick

Births - continued

Dec. 1—Sharon Edith Peck—Gordon Clarence and Pearl Claus (Twins)
 Dec. 1—Karon Elsie Peck—Gordon Clarence and Pearl Claus
 Dec. 2—Linda Maynard—Louis and Celia Ociepa
 Dec. 8—Marie Louise Lausier—Edmond and Marie Mercier
 Dec. 12—Sharon Pauline Coles—Francis and Doris E. Gates
 1952 Births Received in 1953 and not entered in 1952 Town Report
 Oct. 24—Stillborn
 Dec. 19—Nadine Karen Fortin—Romeo Emile and Madeline Ruth Blaine
 Delayed Return of Birth
 Sept. 20, 1891—John J. Carville—Daniel and Elizabeth Robinson

Marriages for 1953

Jan. 4—Alan A. Sherburne and Mariel A. Bither
 Jan. 30—Stanley Everett Richardson and Pauline Josephine Stephens
 Feb. 1—Frank Defoe and Helen K. (Clarke) Thomas
 Feb. 7—Gerald Leslie Horne and Winnifred Cecelia Standley (Porter)
 Feb. 15—Guy R. Constantine and Vera C. Allen
 Mar. 15—George G. Pelletier and Estelle J. Beausoleil
 Apr. 11—Leo John Pare, Jr. and Doris Janet Gagnon
 Apr. 12—Robert White and Lorraine E. Chaput
 Apr. 13—Richard James Wesson and Sally Anna Freitas (Stanulonis)
 Apr. 28—Costas Canotas and Berit S. Little (Gustafsson)
 May 2—Gerald Thomas Kierstead and Muriel Arlene Cumming
 May 9—William B. Farrington and Claire L. Giguere
 May 14—John B. Jocks and Miriam H. Wilkins
 May 16—Raymond Janzegers and Ruth Lucille Trudell
 June 2—Gerard Roger Labbe and Beverly Anne Wakefield
 June 14—Joseph Hendricks and Sotiria Thompson (Tatseos)
 June 20—Raymond Fournier and Dorothy Capriole (Mahoney)
 June 28—Joseph F. Pare and Jeanne A. Mercier
 June 28—Warren P. McHugh and Doris Gervais
 July 7—Leonard A. Fuller and Bette Marilyn Milliard
 July 18—Maurice Rudolph Dugrenier and Doris Theresa Lavallee
 July 30—Alfred L. D. Gustafson and Marjorie (Partridge) Sampley
 Aug. 1—Frank J. Crowdray and Evelyn F. Byam
 Aug. 8—Joseph M. Mercier and Alphonsine Ward (LaFlamme)
 Aug. 15—Robert E. Boulard and Patricia B. Richard
 Aug. 22—Curtis A. Guild, Jr. and Ruth G. DeCarteret
 Sept. 4—Turre F. Pennaman, Jr. and Patricia A. (Crawford) Pennaman
 Sept. 5—William A. Barton and Estelle L. Martel
 Sept. 12—Daniel Leo Gray and Mary Martin (Cheatham)
 Sept. 20—Robert Joseph Tarpey and Claire L. Grenier
 Sept. 26—Joseph A. Courtemanche and Joanne Conley
 Oct. 17—Joseph Waiswilo and Celia C. Mullin
 Oct. 25—George Edward Munnis and Jeannette R. Desharnais
 Nov. 1—Oscar Wilder, Jr. and Marjorie B. Lorman
 Nov. 22—Robert W. Johnson and Mary McCue
 Dec. 26—Bernard Thomas Rock and Gertrude L. Bergeron

Deaths for 1953

Jan. 4—Edward Gloria Richard
 Jan. 17—Lewis Arthur Felt
 Jan. 17—Luther G. Meloy
 Jan. 31—Ovide Verville
 Feb. 8—Iona Letourneau (nee Boulette)
 Feb. 22—Michael T. Henneberry
 Feb. 27—Thomas J. Bentley
 Mar. 12—James Martin
 Apr. 1—Napoleon R. Langlois
 Apr. 3—Sister Margaret St. Cecilia (Helen C. Breen)
 Apr. 4—Sister Perpetua of the Sacred Heart S.N.D. (Ellen M. Ash)
 Apr. 17—Otis E. Latour
 April. 20—Della (Hazel) Bancroft
 May 13—Axa Gaudette (nee Gaulin)
 June 18—Sister Josephine Marie (Josephine Murphy)
 June 21—Edward O'Malley
 June 21—Sandra Lee Emerson
 July 1—Goldie (Gilbert G.) Fezette
 July 25—Percy A. Smith
 July 30—Elmire (Belanger) Lessard
 Aug. 24—Philip Clermont
 Sept. 17—Christina (Gillis) Flanders
 Sept. 17—Bertha M. Turner (nee Sherburne)
 Oct. 15—Marie Mezzadri (nee Vincini)
 Nov. 15—Syfroid A. (Sam) Rousseau
 Dec. 11—Charles E. O'Coin

Evangelical Congregational Church

The Evangelical Congregational Church has been busy in its various organizations and committees with results both material and spiritual.

The men of the church, having raised quite a fund from serving a few of the Saturday night suppers, improved the grounds of the church by having a blacktop drive and parking space put in around and in back of the church.

A new well is in the process of being drilled to provide more adequate and better water supply for both the church and the parsonage.

An attractive birdbath was given to the parsonage by the Prescott Fords and provided refreshment for countless birds during the summer. Many colorful annuals were given by the Curriers to beautify the parsonage gardens.

The growth of the child population of the town has been manifest in the many new children in the Sunday School and in the cradle roll of over 30. Several new families have become attendants at the church services.

During the present church season Rev. Robert Crosby has directed the activities of the Pilgrim Fellowship. It has been a privilege to have this graduate student from Boston University with our young people, bringing to them new insight into what life can be for Christian young people today.

The prayer of all who work in any of the activities of the church is that it may serve in Christ's name.

Ladies Social Circle

Regular all day meetings have been held at the homes of the members each month. July and August meetings were combined.

The members have held two fairs, conducted a number of food sales and bean suppers. The basement wall of the church needed some very expensive repairs and the ladies have finished paying for that last year. They have donated to the Red Cross, Community Chest, March of Dimes and other deserving causes.

At the January meeting the following officers were elected: President—Mrs. T. A. Whelan; First Vice President—Mrs. Norman R. Sherburne; Second Vice President—Mrs. Raymond W. Sherburne; Treasurer—Mrs. Bertrand R. Currier; Secretary—Mrs. Edith M. Bell; Directresses—Mrs. Charles E. Haley, Mrs. Horace Clarke, and Mrs. Harvey Pineo; Flower Committee—Mrs. Charles H. Coburn; Publicity—Mrs. Harvey Pineo.

Mabel J. Sherburne

Pilgrim Fellowship

The Officers of the Pilgrim Fellowship for 1954 are as follows:

President	Barbara Robinson
Vice President	Richard Smith
Secretary	Edna Hatfield
Treasurer	Nancy Farrow
Chairman of Devotions	Eunice Trainor
Chairman of Refreshments	Marilyn Guild

The Pilgrim Fellowship meets each Monday night at the church from 7:30 to 9:00. Mr. Robert Crosby, a student at Boston University, is the leader of the group this year.

Two special interest groups have been planned for this year. They are "Boy-Girl Relations" and "Science and the Bible".

Some of the various programs this past year have been such movies as "Reaching From Heaven", a movie on prejudice, and film strips on Boy-Girl Relations. Rev Fahim Ahbdary, a friend of Mr. Crosby's who is also a student at Boston University, told of life in Egypt and of his impressions on coming to the United States. He also showed costumes of Egypt.

For projects we have collected soap to be sent over seas where it is very much needed and we helped collect for the Heart Fund.

A few books on Boy-Girl Relations have been purchased and are available at the church for those members of the fellowship who wish to borrow them.

Barbara Robinson

Industrious Club

The Industrious Club is a social club as well as industrious and we meet the second Thursday of each month, all day meetings with dinner at noon. We meet at the different members' homes. The officers are as follows:

President—Louise Downs, Vice President—Ethel Sherburne and Secretary and Treasurer Ethel Sargent.

Our Election is in May.

In July we chartered a bus and took a trip to Salem Willows, for the day. In September we went to the Manning Manse for dinner. We donate to the March of Dimes, Red Cross, Jimmy Fund, Worcester Relief Fund, Community Chest and the Childrens Home in Lowell. We send cards to the sick and shut-ins, also make mention of the various members' birthdays. There are about thirty members and are always glad to have visitors and new members are always welcome.

Ethel M. Sargent
Secretary

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Tyngsborough Evangelical Woman's Club

"I can do little alone:

Together we are limited only by our will to do."

Executives for 1953

President—Helene Spencer Riley
 Vice President—Muriel Cobleigh Gilpatrick
 Secretary—Eleanor Sullivan Le Masurier
 Treasurer—Helen Watson Lustig
 Past President—Blanche Hunter Clark
 Finance—Ruth Sudsbury Bent
 Press & Publicity—Vivian Ross Gilson
 Remembrance—Avis Bell Clarke
 Program—Barbara Hammond Lambert

The Evangelical Woman's Club has, as its objectives:

- A. To work for the good of the Evangelical Church.
- B. To assist with the financial support of the Evangelical Church.
- C. To assist with the repair, decoration and replenishing of the household goods of the Evangelical Parsonage.
- D. To render community service.

Membership shall consist of women who have passed their eighteenth birthday and who accept the objectives of the club.

Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at eight o'clock in the evening. Various members as hostesses invite the club to meet at their homes, and are assisted by two or three co-hostesses in the preparation and serving of light refreshments which agreed-custom limits to two items, (one wet, one dry).

The Annual Meeting in January has been held at nearby restaurants, preceded by a Banquet featuring a Birthday cake as traditional part of dessert. The reports of outgoing officers and chairman and the presentation of the incoming Executive Board highlights the business meeting.

Many townspeople were drawn to the Tyngsborough Country Club on our Second Annual Guest Night to partake of an excellent catered supper, to see the performance of the young square dancers of North Chelmsford's Princeton Street School, and to hear the distinguished Dr. John N. Booth.

It seemed appropriate to hold the Lenten Season program in the Church where Reverend J. R. Duncan (a former pastor of this church) presented his views (verbal—pictorial and personal) of, present-day Palestine. The local newspaper and church bulletins extended a cordial invitation to all interested people — and the large attendance—especially of young people — was very gratifying.

Many were attracted to an outdoor meeting and cookout for the purpose of seeing and hearing Tori Malmin, a delightful exchange visitor from Norway.

A "higher-than-has-been" attendance was maintained throughout the year due in part to the nine new members we welcomed, and the very fine programs procured by chairman Barbara Hammond Lambert.

The members of the Evangelical Woman's Club, individually and collectively, have worked diligently for the good of the Church and have assisted in its financial support as well as its physical upkeep. They provided supervision for small children in the nursery-room during church services.

It was a happy experience to be able to send a member of the Pilgrim Fellowship to the Youth Fellowship Camp in Plymouth for a week of fine training.

Cooperative Baking — with the Ladies Social Circle — for the summer food sales provided both groups with greater success in volume and finances.

Rummage and food accounted for balancing and rounding out the Budget.

It was the Club's pleasure to start the "Well Fund Drive" with an encouraging donation.

The Club appreciated the helpful cooperation of Mrs. William Franklin Slade in achieving the planned maintenance of, and improvements to the Parsonage.

One of our Social Pleasures was to take tea with the Ladies Aid Alliance of the Neighboring Unitarian Church at their reception to welcome Reverend and Mrs. Larson.

Community service sparked the origin of the Woman's Club and substantial planned donations were given to the organized drives of Polio, Red Cross, Tuberculosis, Community Chest, Heart, and Cancer.

Again joining forces with the Ladies Social Circle the Woman's Club helped the Red Cross provide, prepare and serve refreshments to a ward of convalescing veterans in the Hospital at Fort Devens.

The Club had four racquets restrung to aid and encourage the group of young people who repaired and retaped the tennis courts.

One of the most unfortunate disasters in our local history was the Worcester tornado. Due to the urgent need the Tyngsborough Evangelical Woman's Club immediately voted to donate a generous sum which equaled the quota for the whole town of Tyngsborough.

The Club is grateful for the extra-special assistance of Mrs. Slade, Mr. John Collier, Mr. Chester Queen, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Sherburne, Mr. Louis Spindell, Mr. Charles Currier, Mrs. Ruth Boucher, Mr. Myron Hartford, Mr. Earl Gilson, and the Lowell Sun Reporters.

In the foregoing report I have logged some of the services which the Evangelical Woman's Club has performed during the past year.

It would be an impossible task to detail all of the help and kindness extended by our fellow citizens of Tyngsborough. However, on behalf of the whole club, I extend a sincere "thank you" to each towns person who has contributed in any way to the very successful past year which the Club has enjoyed.

Helene Spencer Riley
 President

Middlesex Health Association— Tyngsborough Chapter

Free chest x-rays continue to be made available to all residents of Tyngsborough who desire them, through the program of your local chapter of Middlesex Health Association. This society which conducts the Annual Christmas Seal sale, reports a successful year and wishes to thank the people of Tyngsborough for their continued support of this most essential health service.

Our work in this community also includes the supplying of monthly health bulletins and posters for use at Winslow School. The teachers report that this attractive material is extremely useful in their health education program.

On a national level, much work needs still to be done in research, detection of new cases of Tuberculosis through chest x-rays and rehabilitation.

Florence M. Smith
 Chairman

Friendly 4-H Sheep Club

The Friendly 4-H Sheep Club was started in April, 1953 under the leadership of Mrs. John V. Robinson. The purpose of the club is to inform the members of all phases of the Sheep industry. This includes the raising of a lamb for meat, raising a breeding ewe, management and good health practices, pasture and hay raising, wool and its products and marketing same, showing and judging animals plus many more too numerous to mention.

The majority of the meetings were held at Mrs. Robinson's home but the club attended a Field Day at Wool top Farm, East Pepperell, where they learned how to fit an animal for show, how to judge different classes of animals and they also watched a Sheep dog in action.

The group attended the two day 4-H Fair in Groton in August. They brought their animals. They participated in a Showman-ship contest and a Judging contest one day and exhibited their Sheep the next day.

The average age of the members is approximately 12 years so too much cannot be accomplished the first year but it has been a good start and good fellowship has been enjoyed. At present there are nine active members.

Mrs. John V. Robinson
 Leader



The American Legion
Robert D. Pelletier Post No. 247
 "For God and Country"

OFFICERS:

Commander—Earle Stratton
 Sr. Vice Commander—Joseph Pelletier
 Jr. Vice Commander—Anthony Kisley
 Adjutant—Kenneth Porter
 Finance Officer—Charles Coburn
 Sergeant at Arms—George Smith
 Chaplain—George Bell
 Historian—Arthur Bell
 Auditor—Preston Fay

MEETINGS:

The first and third Thursdays of each month at the Legion Hall.

Post 247, during the past year continued towards its goal of increasing its membership and contributing to community services.

Donations have been made to the American Red Cross, March of Dimes, and the Community Chest. The Post also contributed to the lighting of the Christmas tree.

The Post also supported the Wooden Church Crusade, a non-profit, non-denominational corporation organized for the express purpose of constructing a series of wooden churches for existing congregations along the border that separates Western Germany from the communistic states; a "spiritual wall paralleling the iron curtain of communism."

The National Legion Convention held in 1935 endorsed a program of Boys State and made it "an essential part of the National Americanism program." Boys State is an objective citizenship school, in which the nation's boy leaders gain a true conception of the ideals and objectives, the functions and operation of government.

The Boys State program is characterized by the self imposed duties and responsibilities, rules and regulations, practices and abilities, which are essential to the maintenance of an orderly society and government in which the individual participates as an act of worthy citizenship.

This year the Department of Massachusetts will conduct Boys State for over four hundred boys at the University of Massachusetts. Our Post, for the first time is sponsoring boys to attend the 1954 Boys State. Two boys are being sponsored this year. One boy is sponsored directly by the Post and the other is sponsored by the Parent-Teachers Association through the Post.

In order to be eligible to attend Boys State a boy must be a member of the Junior Class in a Senior High School, in the upper third of his class scholastically, and possess distinct qualities of character and leadership.

These boys will enjoy nine days training and recreation beginning June 18. Their opportunities are great. We feel sure that they will take full advantage of them and return with lessons in citizenship well learned.

The Post was granted its permanent charter by the National Organization. This charter, recently received, has been suitably framed and hung in the Legion Hall.

The Post is assuming its responsibilities in the Civil Defense effort and is in the process of forming a rescue team to work with the local Civil Defense Authority.

Our building fund, started several years ago so that the Post may have permanent quarters of its own, is steadily growing. To accelerate the growth of our building fund and extend our services to the community, membership is very important and all veterans of Tyngsborough are urged to join the American Legion Post No. 247 and take an active part in its work.

Kenneth H. Porter
Adjutant



American Legion Auxiliary
Robert D. Pelletier Post No. 247
 "For God and Country"

The American Legion Auxiliary, Unit No. 247, meets in the Legion Hall on the second Thursday of each month.

The officers are as follows:

President—Grace Stratton
 Sr. Vice President—May Carter
 Jr. Vice President—Mary Flanders
 Treasurer—Dorothy Magoon
 Secretary—Gladys Robinson
 Chaplain—Bertha Knight
 Historian—Nettie Starkey
 Sergeant at Arms—Lillian McPhee
 Executive Committee—Daisy Wilkins
 Yvonne Wilkins
 Lillian Pineo

In January our unit was co-sponsor for a dance held at the V.A. Hospital in Bedford. We furnished the orchestra for the occasion.

The Annual Poppy Sale was held in May. Our unit participated in the Memorial Day Services.

Contributions were made to all worthy organizations such as; Red Cross, Worcester Tornado Fund, Children's Medical Center in Boston, etc.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who helped with our Christmas gifts for the veterans at Bedford, as well as our food sales and other projects we undertook during the year.

We were pleased to have our membership increased this year and look forward to having all women who are eligible join the Auxiliary.

We have had penny socials, military whist parties, and other activities to raise funds.

On October 15, 1953 the Legion and the Auxiliary held their joint installation. Mrs. Jane Hyde, Sr. Vice Director of the Fifth District and the Middlesex County Cadets, were the installing officers for the Auxiliary.

The unit was pleased to receive this year's Meritorious Citation from the Department of Massachusetts for "extraordinary service by generous contribution to the Christmas Gift Shop Program."

Gladys Robinson
Secretary

Boy Scouts of America
Tyngsborough Troop 46

After a period of more or less inactivity the Boy Scout Troop of Tyngsborough No. 46 is at the present time in a stage of reorganization under the joint sponsorship of the Tyngsborough Volunteer Firemen's Associations of Stations No. 1 and No. 2.

Meetings are held at Fire Station No. 2 every Wednesday evening from 7 to 9 under the leadership of Scout Master Alfred Guillemette, Sr. and any boy 11 years of age or over is eligible to become a member and is urged to do so. If enough boys from the center of town join, meetings for this group can be arranged to be held in the lower Town Hall. In the meantime transportation to the Lakeview Ave. Firehouse will be provided.

A new Scout Charter has been applied for under the name of the Tyngsborough Volunteer Firemen's Association bearing the following new Troop Committee names: Station No. 1, Raymond O. Knisley, Jr., Frank E. Cobleigh and Albert E. Holdsworth. Station No. 2, Wilfred Mercier, Sr., Albert A. Sanford, Maurice L. Coyle, Alfred Guillemette, Sr., and Elwood C. Allen. Scoutmaster, Alfred Guillemette, Sr.

Albert E. Holdsworth
Troop Committee

Bird Notes

"Ah! there is the note of the first flicker, a prolonged, Monotonous wick-wick-wick-wick-wick-wick, But how that single sound peoples and enriches all the Woods and fields! It seems to put a life into Withered grass and leaves and bare twigs and henceforth The days shall not be as they have been."

—Thoreau

The pupils of Winslow School join the handsome flicker (golden winged woodpecker) in his response to the call of spring. The six higher grades enjoy nature walks at the beginning of the migration. During the ten walks about fifty varieties of birds were observed—most of them in the fields and woods and shrubbery that border Farwell Road. Included in the list of spring, summer, and winter birds are: robin, tree swallow, house sparrow, herring gull, starling, towhee, white throated sparrow, blue jay, junco, song sparrow, flicker, chipping sparrow, field sparrow, phoebe, bluebird, crow, goldfinch, cowbird, grackle, meadow lark, Cooper's hawk, myrtle warbler, pine siskin, pheasant, kingfisher, downy woodpecker, chimney swift, brown thrasher, killdeer, barn swallow, white breasted nuthatch, rose breasted grosbeak, oven bird, catbird, Baltimore oriole, king bird, chebec, black and white warbler, mourning dove, chestnut sided warbler, redstart, house wren, yellow warbler, Savannah sparrow, black crowned night heron, wood thrush, red eyed vireo, crested flycatcher, scarlet tanager, bobolink, parula warbler, prairie warbler, northern yellowthroat, indigo bunting.

Annual awards stimulate the building and care of bird houses. Prizes were given forty-four pupils for fifty-nine houses occupied by wrens, blue birds, and tree swallows. Small prizes were given to one hundred seventy-two pupils for lists of identified birds submitted. Robert Kirby and Ronald Corcoran initiated a census taken in the spring vacation, and presented thirty-seven scholars with small tokens as evidence of their activity. Thanks are due to Mr. Starkey and staff for their fine cooperation.

Unlike wild animals, birds do not seem to possess the instinct to hoard food for any appreciable time. But the number of those who remain through the winter to consume countless eggs and grubs of insect pests can be increased by regular and proper feeding. Many of our local bird lovers find providing food and shelter for our hungry paying guests a time-consuming, but fascinating, project.

In Remembrance of EDWIN RUSSELL DAVIS, who departed this life after a sojourn of ninety-six years. From early youth, he devoted himself joyously to the welfare of his treasured wild friends, many of whom he converted into neighbors, to the lasting benefit of birds and men. For many years the townspeople were privileged to follow him on annual community walks at the height of the spring migration; and the pupils of Winslow School were indebted to him for his enthusiastic sharing of his fund of knowledge and rare experience.

"Uncle Ed", a resident of Leominster, leaves three Tyngsborough nephews—Raymond, Maxwell and Norman Sherburne. He was the loved brother of Francena L. Sherburne, in whose memory the bird fund of Tyngsborough Grange was instituted.

"And the birds sang round him, o'er him."

—Hiawatha, Longfellow.

Anna F. Elliott

The Village Players

The Village Players report a very successful year for 1953. For last years V. I. A. fair the Village Players presented a three act play "Such Things Happen" directed by George Bell and Henry LaFrance, Jr.

In May, the players presented "Sweet Ann Page", an extremely delightful Musical, which the Players had not attempted before. The cast consisting of a large group of our "teen-agers" and directed by Olive Littlehale.

In November, three one act plays were presented, "The Great Western Melodrama", directed by Forrest Ames, "If Men Played Cards as Women Do," directed by George Bell, "If Women Worked as Men Do," directed by Carol Mauritson.

Although the organization is small in number, the group who are active, work diligently and accomplish much by adding to and repairing the stock, scenery and make-up.

Each play has shown a profit. The townspeople are thanked for their cooperation in helping to make the plays a success.

We were complimented in having Mrs. Fletcher Pyle as our program chairman, who made our monthly meetings in private homes delightfully entertaining. Delicious refreshments are donated and served at each meeting by the members.

Our energetic President, Mrs. Robert Lambert, keeps our successful organization in smooth running order. 1953 was good to us, let's hope 1954 is better.

Bette Sanford
Secretary

Officers

President—Mrs. Robert Lambert
Vice President—Mr. Warren Riley
Treasurer—Mrs. Valmore Turcotte
Secretary—Mrs. Albert Sanford

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by DOROTHY STERLING

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FLOSSIE LEVAN, dancer with the same company	MARILYN GUILD
MADAME STITCH, the wardrobe mistress	CAROL MAURITSON
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POLLY POFENBERGER, a country girl	MURIEL GILPATRICK

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MRS. ETHEL SARGENT

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Mrs. Norman Sherburne
Mrs. Charles Coburn
Mrs. Louise Downs
Mrs. Henry J. LaFrance, Sr.

NOVELTY TABLE

Mrs. Jerome Hatfield
Mrs. Adelard LeBlanc

FLOWER TABLE

Mrs. Bertrand Currier
Miss Janice Cobleigh

GRAB TABLE

Mrs. Harvey Pineo
Mrs. L. Ray Smith

FARMER'S TABLE

Mr. Chester Queen

CHILDREN'S TABLE

Mrs. Cornelius Shanahan
Mrs. Arthur Burris

CANDY TABLE

Mrs. Ethel Sargent
Mrs. Conrad Sargent

DINING ROOM

Mrs. Earle R. Stratton

KITCHEN

Mr. Charles Debarbian
Mrs. Ethel Sargent

The Village Improvement Association

Article II of the Association's Constitution sets forth the objectives of the Association as follows:

"The objects of this Association shall be to improve, ornament and light the streets and public grounds of Tyngsborough, by planting and cultivating trees, cleaning and repairing side walks and gutters, erecting, caring for, and lighting street lamps and doing such other acts as shall tend to beautify, improve and light dark streets and grounds."

This article bears repeating so that the principal objective of the Association, namely civic improvement, may be re-emphasized from time to time.

Furthermore, we should not lose sight of the historical background of our Association. For that reason we reprint the following article found in the 1914 issue of the Annual edited by Rev. Napoleon S. Hoogland.

"It was tree planting time April 1844 when the vital forces in roots and stems began to stir and quicken, that the progenitor of the Village Improvement Association was born.

"The sponsors of the original organization were men of commanding character and fine practical idealism. They were: Robert Brinley, D. S., Rechardson, Calvin Thomas, Augustus Pierce, Charles Butterfield, Joseph Upton, Nathaniel Brinley, C. A. Greene, J. C. Proctor and H. Wood.

"That they did something more than 'Elect a secretary and draw up a constitution' is evidenced by the well authenticated tradition that most, if not all, the trees now standing on the Common were set out by the prime movers of the Society about the time when it was organized in 1844. Just how long the original society existed, no records as yet available tell.

"They evidently were more concerned about doing the thing than keeping records.

"The trees in themselves, however, are a living memorial, at once graceful, majestic and beneficent. The time will come, however, when with the inevitable decay of age they will pass away, but the roots will remain to send up new shoots, that if cherished, will grow for the joy of coming generations. The spirit of the original society, with its fine enthusiasm and splendid passion for village improvement has struck deeper roots in the hearts of an enlightened beauty-loving, civic-minded people. Our town Historian is of the opinion that legitimate links of heredity connected the original Tree Society with the present association in the old Lyceum, which, for the generation succeeding 1844 flourished as a green bay tree, whether they actually planted any trees or not. It certainly kept alive and alert a healthy civic and social spirit that has blossomed and borne fruit in radiant and devoted lives.

"An undisputed claimant to a place in the royal line, is the Young People League which was organized in 1876. It was a sort of glorified reincarnation of the civic spirit at the heart of the old society of 1844. The league was started by a number of young enthusiasts, most of whom were connected with the First Parish - - The object of the league of 1876 as stated in its records was to beautify the town and erect public watering places - -

"Then when it had served its day, it was numbered among the things that were. Its spirit, however, did not perish from the place, but again came to a new life in the present association which was organized in 1890. Three days before Christmas when the spirit of active good will is the most abundant in the hearts of men, James Danforth, Channing Whitaker, A. A. Flint, A. P. Hadley, Asa M. Swain, Geo O. Perham, Sumner Woodward and Souville Curtis, answering to the high call of community consecration and service, met at the residence of the leading spirit of the enterprise, whose name appears first in the list, and as a result the present Village Improvement Association was formed."

This is the Association we ask all civic minded citizens to
join that its good works may be continued and increased.

"As this paper is not published for private gain but for community service in the town whose name it bears, its long continued support on the part of those who have made it financially possible to keep it going, and its creditable maintenance by those who have contributed to the intrinsic worth of its pages, is a high tribute to all concerned."

From Vol. XX

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Tyngsborough Volunteer Firemen's Associations

OFFICERS—1954

Fire Department Officers

Chief

Robert G. Duff
Assistant Chief
Arthur B. Bell

Station No. 1

Chairman—Raymond F. Wilkins
Chairman Elect—Joseph A. Pelletier
Treasurer—John J. Mackey
Secretary—Albert E. Holdsworth
Executive Committee

Warren A. Riley
Emery L. Dupras
Captain—Robert J. Lorman
1st. Lieutenant—Conrad F. Sargent
2nd. Lieutenant—Emery L. Dupras

Robert J. Lorman
Paul Desmarais

Personnel

Paul Desmarais	Conrad F. Sargent
Leo G. Pelletier	Charles Morton
Emery L. Dupras	Joseph A. Pelletier
Earl B. Davis	Warren A. Riley
Allen E. Wilkins	Raymond F. Wilkins
Fred A. Choate	John J. Mackey
Frank S. Turner	Arthur B. Bell
Robert J. Lorman	Robert G. Duff
Frank D. Parker	Richard Ashley
Blakeley Clarke	Robert J. Anderson
Burton K. Dodge	Raymond O. Knisley, Jr.
Frank Cobleigh	

Station No. 2

Chairman—James MacDowell
Chairman Elect—Valmore E. Turcotte
Treasurer—Elwood C. Allen
Secretary—Frank Bevins

Executive Committee

Maurice L. Coyle	James MacDowell
Valmore E. Turcotte	Elwood C. Allen
Frank Bevins	Albert A. Sanford

Wilfred P. Mercier, Sr.

Captain—Donald A. Rand
1st. Lieutenant—Richard A. Singleton
2nd. Lieutenant—Michael Kiloski

Personnel

Elwood C. Allen	Alphonse Mercier
William O. Bell	James MacDowell
Martin Betz	Edward A. O'Connor
Albert E. Chouinard	Alphonse Poitras
Thomas E. Coughlin	William Poitras
Maurice L. Coyle	Donald A. Rand
Alfred Guillemette, Sr.	Joseph Reidy
Alfred Guillemette, Jr.	Richard A. Singleton
Michael Kiloski	Albert A. Sanford
Maurice Lehoullier	Norman Spencer
Wilfred Mercier, Sr.	William R. Swanton
Wilfred Mercier, Jr.	Valmore E. Turcotte

To acquaint the people of Tyngsborough with the members of their fire fighting forces we have compiled the above roster of the entire organization of both the Volunteer Firemen's Association and the Fire Department proper.

This was done that the residents of the town might be more familiar with the personnel that makes up one of their important departments in the matter of safety and the general welfare of the town in the protection of lives and property in time of emergency.

Both stations have their separate meetings, meeting twice monthly for the purpose of sociability and to discuss the latest fire fighting methods and to receive instructions from drill periods conducted by Drill Masters from the Lowell Fire Department and sponsored by the State. In addition to the training on the proper methods of handling the various types of fires, the men receive complete courses in the use of fire fighting equipment as pertains to the fire trucks.

There are also Stewards appointed each month at each Station, rotating so that each man in turn does his trick, whose duties it is to see that the trucks are in readiness at all times. Batteries must be checked regularly, tires must be inspected, equipment on trucks must be checked and be in its proper place on the truck, the Station must be clean and in proper order so that everything will function with the greatest of efficiency at the sound of an alarm.

These are but a few of the activities going on behind the scenes by your fire department by a group of men, who cheerfully on their own time and without remuneration, because they are interested in seeing that the town of Tyngsborough has as good a Fire Department as any town of comparable size. At the present time the Tyngsborough Fire Department enjoys a splendid record throughout the State and has the distinction of carrying more water to every fire than any other Fire Department in the State.

Personal equipment such as helmets, raincoats, rubber boots and the like are purchased through funds raised by the Department itself by various activities of the firemen who conduct paper drives, whist parties and such and it is only hoped that the townspeople will lend their support to these affairs when asked to do so that their firemen may respond to alarms properly and safely equipped to handle any emergency.

Hallowe'en and Christmas parties are sponsored jointly each year by the firemen of Station No. 1 and Station No. 2 and the children of the town have been royally entertained under the friendly supervision of their firemen friends. So please help your Fire Department to do a good job for you.

Boy Scout Troop No. 46 of Tyngsborough is also sponsored by the Fire Department and is at the present time being reactivated after a period of more or less inactivity.

All able bodied men of the town who will but make it known will be cheerfully welcomed into their Fire Organization.

Raymond F. Wilkins, Sta. #1,	Chairman
James MacDowell, Sta. #2	Chairman
Albert E. Holdsworth,	Secretary

Tyngsborough Grange No. 222

The well attended meetings of the Grange are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. They consist of a business session, literary program and social hour.

One of the highlights of the year was a program given by the Glee Club of the Notre Dame Academy.

Under the direction of Sister Anna Shannahan, the puppet show, which has become an outstanding event, was produced for the enjoyment of the school children.

In September the Grange Fair took place and, thanks to the chairmen, brother and sister Carkin, was most successful.

Throughout the year the Grange has contributed to the various fund drives and assisted in any meritorious project which has come to its attention.

The new slate of officers elected were:

Master—Annie Bell
Overseer—Marion Dingle
Lecturer—George Robeson
Steward—Janet Dingle
Assistant Steward—Clarence Carkin
Chaplain—Marjorie Gustafson
Treasurer—Raymond W. Sherburne
Secretary—Edith M. Carter
Gate Keeper—Ralph M. Carter
Ceres—Anna Shannahan
Pomona—Blanche Salois
Flora—Grace Stratton
Lady Assistant Steward—Mabel Carkin
Executive Committee—James A. Dingle
To serve with—
Chester H. Queen
Harold O. Bell

These officers were duly installed by a local team with C. Adelbert Bell as the installing officer. He was assisted by:

L. Roy Smith—Marshal
Christine Bell—Regalia Bearer
George Bell—Emblem Bearer
Dorothy Harris—Chaplain
Frances Gray—Soloist
Elizabeth Smith—Pianist

New members are received into our order twice a year when their applications have been favorably passed upon.

Annie Bell	Master
------------	--------

Girl Scouts — Troop 29

The year 1952-3 for Troop 29 ended with the District Rally at the Tyngsborough Country Club where 68 badges were awarded to the girls, and the annual over-night trip to Camp Runels with Troop 118. Dr. William Archibald gave his service to examine the girls before their trip.

The year 1953-4 started with keen interest. Thirty-five girls were registered. Because of the large group we have organized our patrols by age.

Mrs. Jerome Hatfield with Mrs. Carlyle Hatfield's cooperation has completed the Cook Badge with the older girls and Mrs. Forrest Ames has presented the Hospitality Badge.

Mrs. Morton has completed the Star Badge with the intermediate group and Mrs. Clarke is working with a large group of Brownie Fly-ups and new girls on the Second Class Badge.

At the present time an enthusiastic class is working on the Farmer Badge with the help of Mrs. Lorrey at the Lorrey Poultry Farm.

Margaret Dupras and Francis Ziemba are the Junior Council representatives.

Our special events have included the annual Brownie Fly-up, a Christmas Party, a Valentine Party, a Snow Party at the home of Mrs. Forrest Ames for the older group, a supper party at Mrs. Morton's, for the intermediate group, and a Skating Party for Mrs. Clarke's group at the home of Linda Herrmann.

Each year we try to do local, community, and world service. Candy baskets were sent to the shut-ins in town, cross word puzzle books were made and sent to a veteran's hospital and three Kits for Korea were sent on their way as part of our "Thinking Day" on Feb. 22.

As usual the Troop made wreaths and took part in the Memorial Day Service.

We again express our thanks to the Troop Committee and all those who have helped to make our program possible.

Margaret C. Morton, Leader

Blanche H. Clarke, Ass't. Leader

Girl Scouts — Troop 118

This year our troop has had a busy time and a very full year. Under the chairmanship of Scout Ellen Lescard our meetings have had a business air as well as badge activities and social fun. The girls have shown that they can handle almost any situation that arises and master it. We have gone back to the town meeting form of government and everyone is happier about it.

In March we made dolls for the Tewksbury State Hospital for Easter and also started our First Aid and Good Grooming Badges which we finished before the closing day of June. Both these badges were received with much enthusiasm especially the Good Grooming as it is the utmost thought of girls in their teens at this day and age. In April Miss Janice Sanford won first prize in the American Girl Contest in the city and went on to take an honorable mention in the National Poll with her design of a spring coat.

In June once again with our sister Troop 29 we journeyed to Camp Runels for a weekend in the open. Everything was cooked out of doors over an open fire and a weekend of good scouting was had by all. Mrs. Robert Lambert, Mrs. Robert Clarke, Mrs. Avis Clarke and Mrs. Coughlin were the leaders of the group. As a guest leader we were fortunate to have Miss Mary Canney as our life guard. Assisting her were two former scouts, Miss Sandra Bergeron and Miss Annette Brunelle.

With Schools opening in September we began another year of Scouting. We immediately started on our Christmas project and on that holiday delivered 100 scrap books to the Children's Ward of the Tewksbury State Hospital. These were made of used Christmas cards and covered with gay shelf paper.

We invested three tenderfoot scouts this year all transfers from Brownie Troop 30.

We regret that Mrs. Willa Singleton and Mrs. Anna Shanahan due to the press of their other duties were forced to resign as assistant leaders. We wish to express our sincere thanks to Mrs. Marion Dingle for assistance with the Child Care Badge. Under her direction 10 Scouts learned the care of young children and completed a tray for the care of a new baby and presented it to Mrs. Kenney for her disposal. We also wish to thank Mrs. Donald Rand for her assistance in the Cooking Badge.

To our splendid Troop Committee, Mrs. Bowers Fuller, chairman, Mrs. Marion Dingle, Mrs. Anna Shipley and Mrs. Albert Sanford, Mrs. Ruth Shanahan, we say thanks for your help and cooperation. And to all friends of Troop 118 we also say thanks and Good Scouting.

Mrs. T. Edward Coughlin
Leader

Brownie Troop 30

Brownie Troop No. 30 held its Investiture and Birthday Party on March 10, 1953 when Charlotte Clarke, Pauline Desmarais and Laurel Shea were invested and fifteen Brownies received their attendance pendants.

On May 9th, because of transportation difficulties, the girls were unable to attend Brownie May Day in Lowell but enjoyed a hike and a day of games and fun under the leadership of Mrs. Kenneth Porter and Mrs. Avis Clarke.

The parents were invited to the "Fly-Up" ceremony which was held in the Town Hall on November 10th. Linda Carlin, Kathleen Crowley, Cynthia Dupras, Paula Gilinson, Susan Hastings, Linda Herrmann, Priscilla Lorrey and Sandra Ann Shawcross were the Brownies to "fly-up" into the Intermediate Scout program.

The girls enjoyed parties to celebrate the Holidays throughout the year and had arts and craft projects with song and game periods at regular meetings. In the Spring and Fall the meetings are held out-of-doors as much as possible.

On June 6, 1953 all of the Troops of District Six had a Rally at the Tyngsborough Country Club. The Brownies of Troop No. 30 attended under the leadership of Mrs. Curtiss Lustig, Troop Committee Chairmen Nancy Farrow and Nancy Lustig.

The troop committee held a peanut sale in the fall to supplement the troop treasury and purchased Girl Scout Handbooks for the "fly-ups".

The leaders would like to express their appreciation for the cooperation of the troop committee and everyone who helped make this a successful year for the Brownies of Troop 30.

Helen M. Farrow
Leader

Brownie Troop 125

Brownie Troop No. 125 reorganized November 4, 1953 with Mrs. L. Ray Smith as leader, and Mrs. Henry Gavlik as assistant leader. Both leaders, being inexperienced in Scouting, attended leadership training classes weekly at the Girl Scout Headquarters in Lowell, and were invested as Girl Scouts at the conclusion of the course.

The main object of the Brownie movement is for the girls to become accepted members of the group, and to get along with others. This is best learned by playing and working together, and sharing responsibility.

The Brownie story has been heard and reviewed. The girls have taken seriously the Brownie Promise, which in itself is an inspiration—"I promise to do my best to love God and my country, to help other people every day, especially those at home." After attending four meetings and giving this Brownie Promise, the following girls have been invested as Brownies—Eileen Barker, Diane Bell, Ronnie Gavlik, Doris Gilson, Maxine Sherburne, Joyce Singleton, and Sandra Smith. Those who have completed one year of Brownie membership, and received flower pendants for same are Lorraine Bergeron, Lillian Cabana, and Carol Chute.

The troop meets once a week on Wednesday after school in the schoolroom at the Lakeview Avenue Fire House. Activities are rather limited, due to the set-up of the room, but have included—singing and relay games old and new, calling the attendance roll and collecting dues, hiking, handwork including cutting, coloring, and sewing, a Christmas party, learning proper respect for and handling of the Flag. The girls are now planning a special project to be concluded in May.

Troop committee members at present are Mrs. Richard Singleton and Mrs. Nelson Chute. The leaders are grateful for all assistance given them. Special thanks to Mrs. Maxwell Sherburne and L. Ray Smith for transportation furnished.

Elizabeth D. Smith

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Parent-Teachers' Association

The Parent-Teachers Association of the Winslow School meets on the first Tuesday of each month with the exception of January.

The organization has had an active year promoting projects in order to raise money for school properties. A food sale was sponsored at the Antique Exhibition which was held in the Town Hall in October. During the month of January an auction proved to be a very successful idea. Plans for a spaghetti supper followed by a talent show are now in progress.

This year a new bicycle rack was purchased and installed. A Christmas movie which will be enjoyed by all the grades was bought.

The Parent-Teachers Association is sponsoring through the American Legion Post No. 247 one of the two boys sponsored by the Post to attend the 1954 Boys State being held this year on the campus of the University of Massachusetts. During the nine days these boys spend at the University, with over four hundred other boys, they will be schooled in objective citizenship on the city, county and state levels and enjoy the recreational activities a college campus can furnish.

The March meeting was held jointly with the North School PTA Association at the North School in No. Chelmsford. This gave the Tyngsborough group an opportunity to inspect the new North School and hear a stirring address by Lt. Governor Whittier.

The officers for the year are:

President—Mr. Richard Starkey
Vice President—Mrs. John Robinson
Secretary—Mrs. Fletcher Pyle
Treasurer—Mrs. Valmor Stone

Committee Chairmen are:

Ways and Means—Mrs. Frank Cobleigh
Membership—Mrs. Ernest Sullivan
Program—Mrs. Paul Crowley

The faculty and officers are grateful to the many people who have contributed so generously to the success of this organization.

June Pyle
Secretary

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untried, with the wisdom and
achievement of the ages.

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Tyngsborough-Dunstable Historical Society

The meetings of the Tyngsborough-Dunstable Historical Society have been well attended, and according to paid up dues it shows a gain in membership. Among the new members are two descendants of the Tyng family—Dr. Francis C. Tyng of Goose Bay, Michigan, and his daughter, Mrs. W. T. McEwan, of Coopers-town, N. Y. Visitors are welcome at the meetings and any resident of Tyngsborough or of the old township of Dunstable is eligible for membership. The association mourns the loss of two prominent workers—Mrs. Bertha Sherburne Turner one of the founders and for many years president, and also Mr. Clyde A. Turner.

The program committee consisted of Mr. Clyde A. Turner, Mrs. William C. Archibald, and Mrs. Louis T. P. Spindell. They arranged a fine series of meetings for the year. This year for the first time members were provided with year books, which contain the program for each meeting. Also are given the place of meeting and the hostesses for the same. The booklet has proven to be very helpful.

The annual meeting in February was held at the home of Mrs. Frederick D. Lambert. Mrs. Roscoe Turner, chairman of the nominating committee presented the following slate of officers who were duly elected:

President—Mrs. Elden Staples
Vice-president—Mrs. Franklin Hammond
Second vice-president—Mr. Walter Douglass
Recording secretary—Mr. John E. Barr
Corresponding secretary—Mrs. Frederick D. Lambert
Treasurer—Mrs. Milton Estabrook
Historian—Mrs. Frederick D. Lambert
Custodian—Miss Lena Coburn
Auditor—Mr. Roscoe Turner
Trustee for three years—Mr. Roscoe Turner

After the business meeting Mrs. Edwin Reed gave a most interesting account of the development of music from earliest times. She showed how songs from many lands had influenced the first music of America. Mrs. Reed sang several selections to illustrate her talk and they were much enjoyed and appreciated.

The March meeting was held in the Dunstable Library. Mrs. William Hampton read excerpts from the history of the library, written by Mrs. Swallow for many years its librarian. Mr. James Kendall showed a collection of old documents—deeds, bills, and account books. Also were exhibited some of the treasures given to the library through the years. Mrs. William Archibald read an article from Godey's "Lady's Book" for 1846 entitled "A Day in Lowell".

In April Mrs. William Archibald was hostess in her fine brick house in Dunstable. The house was built by Leonard Parkhurst about 1812. Mrs. Archibald gave an account of the history of the Parkhurst family in Dunstable beginning with Ebenezer who came there from Chelmsford in 1726. The house was built of brick made from clay found on the place, and fired in a kiln there. The third floor originally had a loom room where weaving was done. Mrs. Archibald also read a pamphlet written by Hon. Lewis Parkhurst about the famous old shay in which five generations of the Parkhurst family rode. This carriage is now in the museum at Dartmouth College.

Mrs. Clyde Turner was hostess in May at her home in Lowell. Mr. Turner told at length the adventures of Heinrich Wilhelm Stiegel in manufacturing glass in Pennsylvania. Some examples of old glass were shown and details explained. The June meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Spindell. There Mr. Spindell gave a history of old playing cards, their development and designs in many lands. He also showed a fine collection of them.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Douglass opened their home in Dunstable for the September meeting. Mr. Douglass gave the history of two semi-public houses—the John Brown House in Providence, Rhode Island, and the Gore Mansion in Waltham. He showed beautiful pictures of both exteriors and interiors of the buildings.

The Littlefield Library was the scene of the October and November meetings. In October Mrs. Alister MacDougal of Westford exhibited her colored slides of gardens, flowers, and flower arrangements with a delightful running comment on the pictures. According to custom the first part of the November meeting took the part of an exhibition for the pupils of the first six grades of the Winslow School, who were attended by their teachers. Early toys, colonial utensils, and Indian relics were viewed with much interest. Also there was a demonstration of candle dipping as well as one in rug hooking. In the afternoon Mr. Barr spoke on the subject "My Neighborhood." He told about that part of Tyngsborough which was formerly part of Nottingham—old cemeteries, homes, and roads in the region. He also read some parts of a paper written by Mrs. Anna Gould Carpenter, a former resident of Tyngsborough.

The January meeting, too, was held in the Littlefield Library. Prof. Richard Burr was the speaker. He gave a most enlightening address on the Indians of the Merrimack Valley as well as explaining some of the Indian relics which he had brought with him to illustrate his talk. He connected Tyngsborough closely to his subject by telling how the Tyng family sheltered and cared for Chief Passaconaway in his last years.

The society thanks every one who helped to make this a successful year.

John E. Barr
Recording Secretary

Red Cross

During the past year Tyngsborough received numerous services from the Red Cross. There were 72 contacts with the Home Service including consultation, guidance, verification of emergency leaves and financial assistance. The two Highway First Aid Stations were opened at the two firehouses with equipment furnished by Red Cross. There were four requests for blood met. Also, a hospital bed was loaned to a local family.

Our Junior Red Cross made 89 nut cups for the veterans hospitals. The Girl Scouts from Troop No. 29 made 23 crossword puzzle books for service men in the hospitals. Tyngsborough women made and served cake, cookies and punch at the Lovell General Hospital at Fort Devens at one of the weekly Sunday afternoon parties given by Red Cross.

We want to thank those who cooperated to make last year's drive a success. Our 1954 fund appeal is now underway. Once again we are asking for the support of everyone. But for the Grace of God we would be struggling out of disaster as is Worcester today. Assistance totalling over a million dollars was given by Red Cross to 2500 Worcester families. Red Cross disaster relief is given on the basis of need to victims who cannot finance their own rehabilitation without hardship.

The blood program has become increasingly important. Last year Red Cross procured over 4 million donations of blood for civilian and military use. Blood collected by Red Cross is distributed without charge for the product. Most hospitals do charge for handling and administering blood, however. Late in 1952 the Office of Defense Mobilization called upon Red Cross to provide the maximum possible amount of gamma globulin for the prevention of paralysis in polio. They came through with over 9 million c.c. in 1953.

This year's slogan is "Join and Serve". The simple act of joining the Red Cross enables everyone to serve his neighbors in distress or need wherever they may be. Your time, your energy, your money make Red Cross possible. In your hands is the measure of what it can do in the year ahead for the stricken and troubled. Answer their call—join and serve through your Red Cross.

Bernice M. Sherburne
Tyngsborough Chairman

Girl Scouts

Tyngsborough has two elementary Girl Scout troops, No. 29 and No. 118 under the leadership of Mrs. Clarence Morton and Mrs. T. Edward Coughlin. There are two Brownie troops with Mrs. Wilbur Farrow leader of No. 30 and a new leader, Mrs. Ray Smith replacing Mrs. Marcella Swift as leader of No. 125. Their individual reports will follow.

During the past year there have been several intertroop activities in our local scouting. Through the kindness of Mr. Louis Spindell, the Tyngsborough Country Club was used for a District Rally in charge of Mrs. Robert Lambert, Chairman of District No. 6. On June 5, the Tyngsborough troops No. 29 and No. 118 were hosts to the 17 troops from the three other towns of our district, Groton, Dunstable and North Chelmsford. About 230 girls and 20 leaders participated in an afternoon of relay races, games, gymnastic exhibitions and songs. Each troop furnished its own lunch. Following the refreshments a Court of Awards was held. Awarding merit badges is always an impressive and enjoyable part of Scouting.

Mrs. Morton's and Mrs. Coughlin's troops enjoyed their annual week-end camping at Camp Runels, Pelham in June. They spent three days and two nights living close to nature and exhausting their kind leaders.

Shortly before Christmas the local Boy Scout troop invited our Girl Scouts to a dance at the Town Hall. The evening was enjoyed with all the bubbling enthusiasm typical of teen-agers.

Scouting is a way of life. Unlimited appreciation and thanks go to the excellent leaders and their associates who are helping to develop our girls into fine women.

Bernice M. Sherburne
Neighborhood Chairman

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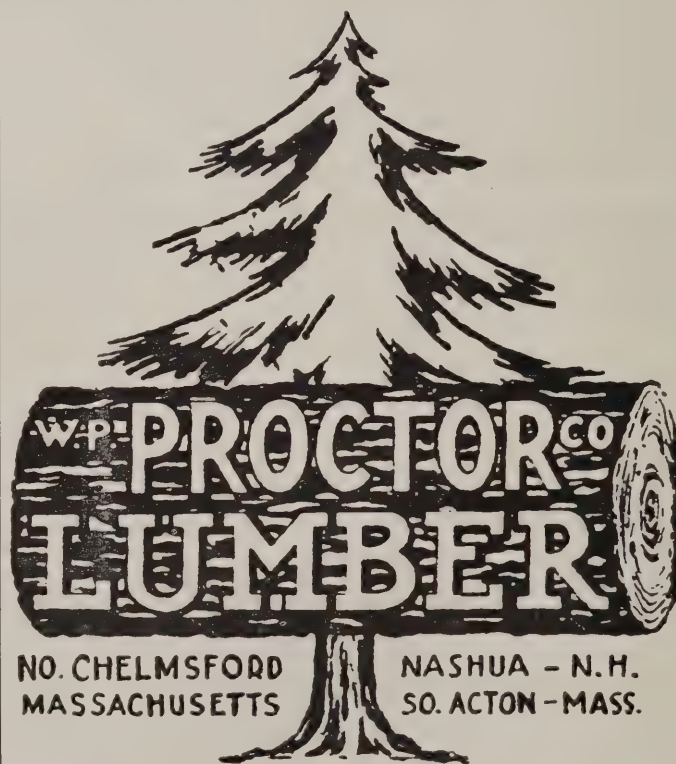
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